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The Hongkong Telegraph

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Barometer 30.09.

February 15, 1918. Temperature 6 a.m. 58 2 p.m. 63
Humidity 59 55

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February 15, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 57 2 p.m. 66
Humidity 58 59

SINGLE COPY 10 CENTS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1918.

五期禮 號五十月二英港香

7878 五期禮二十

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

RE-OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

MR. BLOYD GEORGE ON THE ENEMY PEACE REPLIES

"BREEZE" BETWEEN THE PREMIER AND MR. ASQUITH.

London, February 12.
The opening of Parliament to-day was shorn of much of its usual splendour. The Peers, by command, discarded their robes of scarlet and ermine, while members holding Army Commissions were dressed in khaki. The Prince of Wales sat on the right of the Throne. Prior to the arrival of the Royal procession, the Marquis of Lincolnshire, Great Chamberlain, welcomed, on behalf of His Majesty the King, 400 wounded overseas soldiers, who were accommodated in the Royal Gallery.

The Marquis of Lincolnshire, on behalf of His Majesty, expressed his warm and grateful appreciation of the gallantry and devotion they and their comrades in the Army had displayed in the field. After the conclusion of a victorious peace the King and Queen wish you all a safe and happy return to those great Dominions of which their Majesties are so proud and which you love so well.

Their Majesties, who were cheered through the streets, were escorted by British and Indian officers of the Indian Army and mounted officers of Canadian, Australian, New Zealand, South African, Newfoundland and West Indian Forces.

The King's Speech.

London, February 12.
The following is the text of the King's Speech:—"The necessities of war render it imperative for me, after a brief interval, to summon you again to your deliberations. The aims for which I and my Allies are contending were recently set forth by my Government in a statement which was received with emphatic approval by my peoples throughout the Empire, and provided a fair basis for a settlement of the present struggle and the re-establishment of national rights and international peace in future. The German Government, however, ignored our just demands that it should make restitution for wrongs committed and furnish guarantees against their unprovoked repetition. Its spokesmen refuse any obligations for themselves while denying their rights of liberties to others. Until recognition is offered of the only principles on which an honourable peace can be concluded, it is our duty to prosecute the war with all the vigour we possess. I have full confidence that my forces in the field, in close co-operation with those of my faithful Allies, will continue to display the same heroic courage and my people at home the same unselfish devotion that has already frustrated so many of the enemy's designs and will ensure an ultimate triumph of a righteous cause. I have summoned the representatives of my Dominions and my Indian Empire to a further Session of the Imperial War Cabinet in order to again receive their advice on questions of moment affecting the common interests of the Empire. The struggle in which we are engaged has reached a critical stage which demands more than ever our united energies and resources. I confidently commend to your patriotism the measures which will be submitted to you, and pray that the Almighty God may bestow His blessing upon your labours."

Mr. Lloyd George's Speech.

London, February 12.
In the House of Commons, in moving the Address from the Throne, Brigadier General Lowther, M.P. for North Westmorland, expressed the Army's deep appreciation of the King's frequent visits to the Front and his concern for everything relating to the welfare of the troops.—(Cheers).

Lieutenant the Hon. Alexander Shaw, M.P. for Kilmarnock, seconded.
Mr. Asquith, after paying a very high tribute to Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig and General Sir William Robertson, and declaring that the confidence of the nation and the Empire in them was in no wise shaken.—(Cheers)—asked the Government to defend the recent enlargement of the functions of the Inter-Allied War Council, and also whether any change had been made or was contemplated in its status or personnel or in the functions of Sir Douglas Haig or Sir William Robertson. He concluded by emphasising the necessity for complete confidence in the system by which we were carrying on the war and in perfect harmony between the Government and its servants.

Mr. Lloyd George said the Government stood by the considered declaration which he made on behalf of his colleagues at the meeting with the Trade Union representatives early in the year. He was profoundly disappointed at Count Hertling's and Count Czernin's replies to his and President Wilson's declarations. It was true that there was a difference in tone between Count Hertling and Count Czernin; he wished he could believe there was a difference in substance. When Count Czernin came to the real substance of the Allies' demands, he was adamant. Count Czernin put Mesopotamia and Palestine in exactly the same situation as Belgium, and as regards Italy he simply stated that certain offers were made to Italy before the war but were now withdrawn. So far as the Slavonic population of Austria was concerned, Count Czernin made a bald statement that it was none of the Allies' business to enquire. Indeed, Count Czernin resolutely refused to discuss any terms which might be regarded as possible peace terms. As regards Count Hertling, the Premier said it was difficult to believe that some of his demands were serious, especially regarding Britain's surrendering her coaling stations. It was no use crying for peace when there was no peace, and the Premier confessed that an examination of Count Czernin's and Count Hertling's speeches were profoundly disappointing to those really desiring peace. Germany's action towards Russia proved that her declaration of no annexations and no indemnities was meaningless. No satisfactory answer had been given as regards Belgium and Poland, nor as to France's legitimate claims for the restoration of her lost provinces. Not a word was said about the mass of Italian race and provinces under the Austrian yoke. He most profoundly regretted that he found nothing in those speeches which could possibly be regarded as proof that the Central Empires were prepared for a peace on terms which could be regarded as just and reasonable. The Government had not receded in the least from its statement of war aims, which they still regarded as embodying the aims and ideals for which they were fighting, and there was every indication that the whole nation accepted that statement as fair, just and moderate. Until there was some better proof than had been provided by

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

RE-OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

the speeches to which he had referred that the Central Powers were prepared to consider our war aims, it would be our regrettable duty to go on and make preparations which were necessary in order to establish international right in the world.—(Cheers).

Regarding the Inter-Allied Council, Mr. Lloyd George said he could not give the information for which Mr. Asquith asked, and it was useless to give partial information. He admitted that he stated in November that the Council was not intended to have executive functions, but since then Russia had gone out of the war and a very considerable number of German Divisions had been brought to the Western Front from the East. The situation had become very much more menacing, and the Allies met at Versailles in order to consider the best methods of meeting that menace in 1918. Till the present year, the Allies had an overwhelming superiority in troops on the Western Front, but gradually, and even rapidly, that superiority had diminished, especially during the last few weeks. Despite an undertaking not to remove troops from East to West, Germany had removed troops as rapidly as the railway arrangements allowed. That contravention of the armistice had to be borne in mind when we were discussing the terms of peace.—(Cheers)—because it had a real bearing upon guarantees.—(Cheers). Till this year there was no attack that the Germans could not, in the main, be dealt with by the French armies which could not, in the main, be dealt with by the reserves of each individual army. The situation had been completely changed by the enormous German reinforcements from the East, and they had to consider the change in the situation. They had to deal with the situation where it was. It was absolutely essential that the whole strength of the Allied armies of France, Britain, America and Italy should be made available for the point at which the attack came. We did not know where the blow would come; all we knew was that it was being prepared. There was a gigantic railway system behind the German lines which might swing the attack here or there, and it was essential that arrangements should be made whereby the Allies should treat their armies as one to meet the danger and menace wherever it came.—(Cheers). If they had not dealt with that problem at Versailles, they would have been guilty of a grave dereliction of duty.

Mr. Lloyd George proceeded to contrast the old conferences where the military met on the other side and the civilians here, and where documents were exchanged between the two, and the method of the Versailles Council. The former as conferences to discuss strategy were a pure farce, but at Versailles were five days' discussions at which the Commanders-in-Chief and Chiefs of Staff, with other military representatives, also Premiers and other Ministers attended. Discussion was free and the result was the establishment of complete unity.—(Loud cheers). There was no division of opinion upon any resolution. Regarding the critical action involved in the extension of the powers of the Versailles Council, he must speak with caution, because it was a matter of military decision in a War Council.

Mr. Lloyd George maintained that it was impossible to define the enlarged functions of the Versailles Council without stating the war decisions arrived at. He enlarged upon the value to the enemy of the least information regarding these decisions, and said that if the information had to be given he would rather that the response should be based on other shoulders.—(Loud cheers). Upon those decisions depended millions of gallant lives, the honour and safety of our land and the war aims upon which the future of the world depended. It would be treason beyond description to give the information, and he declined to do so.—(Loud cheers).

Mr. Asquith here rose to protest, amidst loud cheers, against what he termed an insinuation that he was asking for such information.

Mr. Asquith emphasised that he wanted to know in what respect the functions of the Council had been permanently enlarged.

The Premier, who was greeted with cries of "Withdraw," said that if he had made any insinuations against Mr. Asquith, he not only regretted it but withdrew them. It was far from his intention to do so, but he wanted the House to realise that the information Mr. Asquith asked for could not be given without giving information as regards the executive powers conferred upon the Versailles War Council. These powers could not be stated without saying what the Council had to do.—(Loud cheers). The Council, decided upon a certain action the carrying out of which was entrusted to nominees of the Governments sitting at Versailles, and he could not state the executive functions of the Council unless he stated exactly what that decision was. All the Allied representatives at Versailles were against publishing any information and he suggested that if the House were not satisfied it could change the Government, but to try to discuss military decisions—

Mr. Asquith (interrupting):—I have not asked for that.—(Cheers).
The Premier:—Believe me, this involves a military decision of first magnitude by all the greatest leaders of the Allies.

Mr. George Lambert (M.P. for the Cricklade Division of Wiltshire):—Did Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig and General Sir William Robertson approve?

The Premier:—They were present, and all the representatives that were present approved.

The Premier emphasised that such military decisions should not be discussed in the newspapers.

A Voice:—Why don't you stop Northcliffe from doing so?

The Premier:—I would stop them all.

A Member interrupted, saying that newspaper information came from Downing Street.

The Premier:—That is an absolute, unmitigated falsehood.

Mr. Lloyd George concluded by saying that if the House and the country were not satisfied with the conduct of the war, and if they thought a new Government could conduct it better, it was their business to change the Government, but so long as the House of Commons retained confidence in the Government, they ought to allow it a full and free hand in the Entente, thereby preserving vital unity between the nations of the Allies. He therefore appealed to the House to support the Government, especially in its determination that when decisions of this kind were reached they would be carried out and not revealed to the enemy.—(Loud cheers).

A Report Disputed Of.

During the course of the debate, Mr. Fringle asked if General Sir William Robertson had been dismissed or had resigned.

Mr. Bonar Law replied "No" to both questions.

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

RUSSIA GIVES UP.

Demobilisation of Troops Ordered.

London, February 12.
A wireless Russian official message states:—"The peace negotiations have ended. The German capitalists, supported by the silent co-operations of the Anglo-French bourgeoisie, submitted conditions which are not acceptable to the Russian Revolution. The latter is unable to acquiesce in forcible annexations or to sign a peace bringing sadness and oppression to millions of workmen and peasants. We refuse to fight against Austro-German workmen and peasants like ourselves. Demobilisation has been ordered, except in the case of some detachments for the defence of the frontier."

Ukraine Peace Not Recognised.

London, February 12.
Reuter's Agency is informed that the British Government do not consider themselves bound to recognise the peace concluded between the Austro-Germans and those who have signed it on behalf of Ukraine.

ENEMY HELD UP IN ITALY.

London, February 12.
An Italian official message says:—"Our artillery decimated remarkable forces advanced by the enemy on the southern slopes of Saseorosso and east of Val Frenzels, preventing development of any important action."

THE WESTERN FRONT.

Raid by Both Sides.

London, February 12.
A French communiqué, speaking of reconnoitring raids on both sides, mentions successful French raids on the outskirts of Bouconville, north of the Ailette, also in Woivre, and failure of German attempts between Bismarck, Bois des Forges, and also in Champagne, Woivre and the Voëges.

Manchester's Successful Raid.

London, February 12.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communiqué, states:—"We drove off raiders north-east of Epéhy. The Manchesterers successfully raided west of Le Bassé and inflicted many casualties at slight cost."

Another German Town Bombed.

London, February 12.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—"Our patrols took a few prisoners at different points of the front. Our aeroplanes yesterday dropped over a ton of bombs on various targets behind the lines. They raided Germany to-day, bombing the town of Offenbourg. No details have yet been received."

ANGLO-DUTCH RELATIONS.

London, February 12.
According to Reuter's correspondent at the Hague, in the Second Chamber the Foreign Minister stated that Britain, in raising the embargo on commercial telegrams, took into consideration that the embargo would not be recurring before March 15 and there was a desire to maintain and if possible strengthen the cordial relations. He explained that Britain had not objected to Holland's legal principle but to its application, with which the impending Anglo-Dutch discussions would deal.

SWEDEN AND FINLAND.

London, February 12.
Reuter's correspondent at Stockholm says that M. Branting, addressing a great meeting of workmen, advocated Swedish mediation between the parties now engaged in civil war in Finland. The meeting passed a resolution in favour of Swedish mediation, calling on Finnish Socialists not to oppose it.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

COMMENTS ON THE RUSSIAN PEACE.

London, February 12.
The following comments are made on the Russian peace.

The "Daily Telegraph": Germany's position is strange. She remains in occupation of Russian territory without international sanction and is unable to effectively reply to the question posed by the Russians, "What are you going to do?" while Sir Douglas Haig has confirmed the opinion that the freeing of the enemy's hands in the East does not threaten the Western Allies with defeat by mere weight of numbers.

The "Times" says: The importance of the failure of Bolshevik diplomacy is political not military. They have given a wholesome lesson to idealists hankering after peace by negotiation.

The "Daily Mail" says: The Germans apparently imagine that the other Allies may be driven to accept such a deplorable condition. There could not be a more fantastic delusion.

The "Daily Express" says: The Bolsheviks have opened a wide door into a broken Empire rioting in anarchy. Germany can only enter in fear and trembling. President Wilson has brought the world back to realities by making it clear that the Allies must fight to the bitter end.

The "Daily Chronicle" says: If the war does not end in Hohenzollern's acquisition of a great tyrant Empire in the East it will not be the Petrograd revolutionaries but the organised democracies of Great Britain, France, Italy and the United States that will avert such a disaster.

(Continued on page 3.)

CLAIM FOR SALARY.

An Action which Failed.

Mr. Justice Gompertz has delivered his judgment in the case in which A. Sauts claimed from Mohideen and Company, \$267 32, being balance due for salary from October 1, 1915, to September 30, 1917, at \$1800 per annum. There was a counterclaim by the defendants for the sum of \$1,208 20 on an account stated between the plaintiff and the defendant. The defendants waived \$268 20 in order to bring their claim within Summary Jurisdiction.

The plaintiff was represented by Mr. Mattingley, and Mr. Gardiner appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Justice Gompertz delivered his judgment as follows:—"In a case like the present, where men who did business together as personal friends have fallen out and gone to law, there are naturally great difficulties in getting at the truth. No ordinary commercial record of their transactions is available and very little can be learned from the books. One has to take broad general probabilities, and it comes in the last resort to the question of the credibility of one side or the other. On the whole I think that the probabilities are against the plaintiff. I cannot accept his story of the ring—it is absurd for him to say that he cannot say what he got with the money he got for it. Again, there is no corroboration whatever of his account of the purchase of gold notes; though rarely some evidence should be available. It is a question of the truthfulness of the plaintiff or of the defendant. I prefer to believe the defendant, and this involves the rejection of the letter which purports to be a contract for service. I have not reached my conclusion without some difficulty, but in the last result I feel I have no option but to find for the defendant both on the claim and on the counter-claim, with costs."

CRICKET.

Civil Service v. University.

The following will represent the Civil Service their own ground at 2 p.m. on Saturday next:—E. W. Hamilton (Captain), E. E. O. Bird, W. H. Edwards, T. McGinnis, O. O. Woodman, D. M. Gadsell, W. E. Dixon, C. M. W. Reynolds, J. O. C. Fletcher, B. W. Badbury and P. T. Lambie.

K. C. C. v. C. R. C.
To be played to-morrow at Kowloon starting at 2 p.m. the home team will be:—J. P. Robinson, J. S. Baker, P. H. Cobb, R. Pottorji, B. Macaskill, L. E. S. Hodge, F. E. Jossland, H. Overly, W. T. Elson, O. J. Stapleton and W. Kay.

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Victoria Theatre, 9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre, 9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinematograph, 9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.

Victoria Regatta.
Victoria Theatre, 9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre, 9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinematograph, 9.15 p.m.

Monday, February 18.
St. George's Society, 3 local general meeting at City Hall; 5.30 p.m.

Constitutional Reform Association, Annual general meeting at City Hall; 5.45 p.m.

Thursday, February 21.
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Shareholders meeting; noon.

Saturday, February 23.
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, Annual meeting; noon.

EARTHQUAKES

"There appears lately to have been a lot of loose hair found floating around in different parts of the Colony."

"WATSON RESORGIN HAIR WASH."

will not only quickly restore those lost locks, but will so invigorate the scalp, as to render them immune from all other shocks.

In bottles at \$1.00 and \$1.50.

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HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

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Correspondents are requested to observe the rule which requires them to forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of their bona fides.

All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

Cable Address: Telegraph, Hongkong.

Telephone: No. 1 A.B.C. 5th edition. Western Union
Office address: 11, Ice House St.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

The Family of the late Mrs. Charles Leshire express their grateful appreciation of the many tokens of sympathy shown to them in their recent sad bereavement, and also thanks for the numerous floral tributes.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1918.

"EAST IS EAST."

Little has been heard for some time now of the precise state of affairs in relation to the conflict between the North and the South. That is so because it happens to have been Chinese New Year, a time when veritable newspapers suspend publication for close on a fortnight, no matter what events are occurring. We are wondering whether the Chinese armies have also been having a holiday, or whether the rival groups of soldiers have been demonstrating their goodwill by indulging in fraternisation. Be that as it may, the situation appeared some too bright or hopeful when the last news was heard, for there was evident a determination on both sides to settle the dispute one way or another through sheer force of arms. Attempts at a pacific adjustment of the differences have proved futile, despite the willingness shown by the President to discuss matters in an amicable spirit.

When one considers the seriousness of the issues involved, and especially the possible loss of life and dislocation of commerce which these outbreaks bring in their train, it is rather pathetic to observe the manner in which those occupying high rank in the councils of State indulge in foolish political practices which have long since lost whatever utility they ever possessed. For instance, the President has just issued a Mandate in regard to the present troubles, in which he roundly denounces himself for lack of ability and ordinary foresight! He shows how he treated the South-erners by agreeing to an armistice, believing their declarations for a settlement of differences to be in good faith, and then goes on to state that they disregarded their pledges and revealed their thirst for self-aggrandisement. Proceeding to comment on his own lack of ability to judge the character of his subordinates, the President says that his first act at reconciliation has only further complicated the situation and adds that his "scenty virtues" do not fit him for shouldering the heavy responsibilities of his office. The following paragraph from the Mandate is typical of the whole effusion:—"As I am neither blind nor deaf, I cannot possibly acquit myself of my own fault; I fully realise that all the blunders are traceable to myself, and I certainly would not have dared to remain in my present post to give occasion to adverse criticisms had it not been for the fact that I am bound by the provisional Constitution; which makes it impossible for me to relieve myself of my acting office." He winds up with a declaration that it is the duty of all to secure final victory for the Government troops, so that order may be restored and he himself be enabled to return to his original position "as a penalty before the public."

To those who are accustomed to Western political usages, the issuing of such a document appears strange indeed. But it is typically Chinese in conception and quite in accord with past traditions. None the less, it is what all sensible folk cannot but regard as a foolish "playing at politics." The time for this sort of thing has long since passed. In plain, ordinary, everyday language, the present deadlock has been reached, not by reason of lack of foresight on the part of the President, but purely because the rival groups have been quite unable to discuss a point of agreement. We should pay ourselves that the President has done all that could be humanly expected of him in endeavouring to secure a settlement. Indeed, he has been more patient with the rebellious upstarts than they have deserved. After all, he is head of the only lawful authority in China at the moment—the Peking Government. And it is the business of that Government, now that the Southern revolters have declined to listen to reason, to crush those whose only aim is the securing of office and the gratification of personal desires. These are the folk who have created all the trouble—not the President, whose position now or at any other time is certainly a most thankless one.

The German Club Building.

Not a few people are wondering what is to be the eventual purpose to which the building known as the German Club will be put. Ever since it ceased to be used as a Club, it has stood empty and gaunt, until to-day it presents an almost woe-begone appearance. The exterior is badly in need of renovation, the large tennis courts are used as a football ground by a small crowd of young lads, and the place generally has about it an atmosphere of decadence. When one remembers the acute shortage of housing accommodation that the Colony is suffering from, there is a natural prompting to ask why it is that nothing is done to render this large building of greater utility. The Union Insurance Society of Canton are now, we believe, the owners, but why nothing is done to make use of the building seems inexplicable. There has been talk of utilising it as a boarding house—and an excellent one it would make; but we venture to suggest that if it were possible to make it serve as a block of flats a much greater service would be rendered to the Colony. The scarcity of housing accommodation is even more pronounced than ever it was, and the utilisation of this spacious building in the manner indicated would be no small relief to the situation. Surely it is not beyond the powers of a Hongkong architect to fit the structure for such a purpose. But this apart, it does seem something more than a pity that one of the finest buildings in the Colony is allowed to be of no more public service than to find employment for Indian watchmen.

Air Raids on Germany.

The information contained in a Berlin official report to the effect that during the past month over thirty air raids have been carried out on towns in Germany will come as news to most people. Fifteen of these attacks, we are told, were made on industrial districts, but, according to the German story, the total results were small, only five people being killed and nine wounded. This latter statement, however, must surely be taken cum grano salis. We cannot imagine these numerous attacks, admittedly exceeding in number those carried out during December, only resulting in fourteen casualties. The strange thing about the whole business, however, is that we should have to rely on enemy communications for news of these raids. Why is it, we are prompted to ask, that the public is kept so much in the dark over these proceedings? The German people, of course, know full well what happens in these raids, which are bound to affect their morale, but there is another side to the picture, and that is that the issuing of British reports every time a raid is carried out in Germany would naturally serve to hearten our own people and give the British public the satisfaction of knowing that the enemy has no monopoly of raiding tactics. Bald, cold official announcements afford very little comfort to people subjected to periodical enemy attacks from the air. When we do carry out raids, let the public know all about it.

Too Much Talk.

Britishers overseas have a right to feel impatient at the petty political squabbling which is occasionally indicated in telegrams dealing with Government affairs at home. According to-day's news, the decisions of the Versailles Council are arousing a certain degree of heart-burning, and the Times is urging the desirability of a public Parliamentary debate thereon. Another journal speaks of a revival of opposition to the Higher Command, even to the extent of involving General Sir William Robertson's position. Why all this bother? Those competent to speak are convinced of the wisdom of the creation of the Allied War Council, and already its benefits have been felt? We have suffered far too much in the past from unintelligent lay criticism of our military leaders, and in this regard certain newspapers have played a by no means patriotic part. After close on four years of war it's surely time we stopped bickering and got on with the grim business of war. Above all, let us trust our soldiers.

DAY BY DAY.

THERE IS NOTHING IN THE WORLD SO MUCH ADMIRABLE AS A MAN WHO KNOWS HOW TO BEAR UNHAPPINESS WITH COURAGE.—Seneca.

To-morrow's Anniversary.

To-morrow is the second anniversary of the capture of Emswurm.

The Dollar.

The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 2s. 11.5/8d.

A Magistrate's Prescription.

A young and healthy looking beggar, when charged before Mr. Dyer Ball, at the Magistrate's Court this morning, with the theft of an overcoat from an Indian watchman, frankly admitted that he took the coat as he felt cold. This remark elicited from his Worship that a little work would be a good thing to keep him warm. Sentences of one month's hard labour was passed.

Possession of Milk Bottles.

A Chinese coolie was charged before Mr. Dyer Ball, at the Magistrate's Court this morning, with the unlawful possession of five milk bottles the property of the Dairy Farm Company. The man took them to the Dairy Farm and tried to sell them back. Questioned, he said he had brought them from a certain house, but later altered his story, saying he had picked them out of a dustbin. His Worship sentenced the man to three weeks' hard labour.

Too Much Petroleum.

The occupier of a shop at No. 2, Eastern Street was charged before Mr. Dyer Ball, at the Police Court this morning, with storing more petroleum on his premises than his licence permitted him to have. Inspector Terrett stated that only 40 gallons were allowed, but there were 284 gallons stored in 71 tins in a corner of the lane. His Worship viewed the offence as a most serious one in view of the dry season, and fined the defendant \$50.

Concealed Opium.

An old Chinese woman was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, with the unlawful possession of eight tins of opium. The drug was found concealed in a tin with a false bottom. A further quantity was found concealed underneath the defendant's jacket. Her excuse was that she had been given the opium to bring to Hongkong from Annam. A fine of \$300, or three months' hard labour, was imposed.

New Year Gambling.

There were several gambling cases before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, evidently in connection with the celebration of Chinese New Year. Inspector Sim found two men gambling in the street at San Wa Fong, Wanchai, and these were fined \$10 each. One man who was charged with gambling at Wong Nei Cheung village was discharged, he satisfying his Worship that he was only watching others, whilst an Indian for gambling in Moon Street was fined \$10.

Sport Before Law.

When Mr. Mattingley asked the Chief Justice for a day to hear a certain case, at the Supreme Court this morning, His Lordship in turn asked if Mr. Mattingley would like to have one of the Race Days. Mr. Mattingley replied that he would not. The Chief Justice remarked that he thought it was just as well, he did not expect to be present. He did not know, however, if his learned brother had the same sporting proclivities. A day other than a Race Day was of course fixed for the hearing of the case in question.

No Dog Licences.

No less than six occupiers of houses in the Robinson Road, Cause Road and Mosque Street districts were summoned before Mr. Dyer Ball, at the Police Court this morning, for keeping dogs without licences. Mr. Leo D'Almeida appeared for the occupier of No. 8 Robinson Road, and pointed out that the licences for the three dogs kept were taken out as soon as the owner had been reminded by the police. It was merely a case of oversight. His Worship imposed a fine of \$1 for each dog, \$3 in all. Four of the other defendants were fined \$5 each, the remaining defendant being fined \$1, as he had applied for a licence on the morning the summons was issued.

CLAIM FOR DEST.

Proposal to Seize Shares.

A case was heard at the Supreme Court this morning, before Sir William Rees Davies, in which Marion Gains claimed the sum of \$372.80 from Alma I. Iles.

Mr. C. G. Grist appeared for plaintiff, and there was no appearance of defendant.

Plaintiff, giving evidence, said that defendant was indebted in the sum mentioned in the writ before she took her departure from Hongkong. She had given acknowledgement of the debt which was tendered. Plaintiff had applied to Mr. K. Hall Bratton for payment, but he told her that he had no funds. Since then various letters had been written through Mr. Bratton and Messrs. Johnston, Stokes and Master, who had charge of the estate from which defendant received an annuity, for payment of this bill, but so far as she was concerned there had been no reply. The bill had been owing since March, 1916, and nothing had been paid on account.

Mr. Grist said that he proposed to seize five shares in the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and would use the Prohibitory Order which was provided for by the Act as being a proper method of issuing execution against shares, and then he would appear before His Lordship and ask for an order for the disposal of them. The garnishees admitted and there was no doubt about the shares being there.

His Lordship gave judgment for plaintiff with costs.

DISHONEST HOUSEBOY.

Union Church Guild Funds Stolen.

The story of how the servant boy employed by Mr. and Mrs. A. McKersie, of Donedin, Barker Road, stole \$46 was told at the Police Court this morning, when the boy was charged with theft.

Sergeant Cashman, of the Peak, stated that at mid-day yesterday Mr. and Mrs. McKersie were both down in Hongkong. When Mr. McKersie's son came home the defendant reported that robbers had entered the house and had entered Mrs. McKersie's room, breaking open a jewel box and scattering the contents all over the house. The thief then jumped through the window, and was chased by himself and the gardener. A report of the matter was then made to the Police Station and when the police arrived to make enquiries, both the amah and the boy struck to the story of the strange thief. When the gardener was questioned he admitted that the boy was the thief himself and that the story of the other thief was not true.

Mr. McKersie stated that the defendant had been employed by him off and on for about ten years. The money that he had stolen was in two sums, \$15 belonging to Mrs. McKersie and the rest being funds for the Saint Making Fund in connection with the Union Church Guild. The money was wrapped in a piece of cloth and was in the wardrobe. Mrs. McKersie was at the time of the theft, attending a work party, and the defendant must have thought that he had a good opportunity to carry out his theft.

In answer to the charge, the accused stated that on February 10 his clothes and other articles were stolen and he had taken this money to make good his loss. He also wanted to indulge in a little gambling during the Chinese New Year holidays.

Mr. J. E. Wood sentenced the defendant to three months' hard labour.

Cool Coolie's Theft.

A cool coolie, who had been working on board the s.s. Kwai Wah, was searched as he was leaving and was found to have taken round his waist a heavy iron coupling, which he was obviously trying to steal from the ship. Mr. Dyer Ball, before whom the man was charged this morning, sentenced him to six weeks' hard labour and four months' stocks.

SEAGULLS AND SUBMARINES.

Novel Proposal to Help in Detection of U-Boats.

If the scheme of Dr. A. D. Pentz, Jr., of New Brighton, N.Y., works out (says the New York Herald), the Prussians will have an immense number of new enemies added to their already long list of foes. Dr. Pentz wants to mobilise the seagulls against the U-boats and teach the "feathered aeroplanes" to act as scouts for the Allies.

Chimerical as that may sound, it is receiving the serious attention of the Navy Department and has been endorsed by distinguished scientists and men of note. The National Association of Audubon Societies has taken a decided interest in the matter, and it is through that association that Mr. Pentz has made the scheme public.

"Dr. Pentz is not a member of the association, but the method he proposes," said Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson, secretary of the organization, "is so startling and novel that we have arranged to illustrate it in a series of lantern slides."

"The U boat menace is so serious," he continued, "that every means should be employed to counteract it. Naval officers who have discussed this matter with me believe there is merit in the scheme proposed."

"I consider the submersible craft as a gigantic fish, the presence of which can be detected at a considerable depth by the sharp eyes of the sea gulls, for these creatures are nature's aeroplanes. In the U-boat zone the British officers have from time to time learned of the presence of the German and sea fighters, through the actions of the gulls, as flocks of the birds are frequently attracted by the shining periscopes."

"The appliances we consider using is a hopper, fifty four inches long, made of sheet steel, and securely bolted to the top of the submarine. In this receptacle chopped fish is placed; this bait rises to the top of the liquid in the container, and from time to time may be released by the turning of a crank by an operator inside of the submarine."

"The gulls would soon learn to associate food with the submerged submarines, just as they do with surface craft, which they accompany for miles in quest of refuse. Once they have seen food emerge from one under-sea boat, they will pursue others of the same type, so that in time these white winged aviators would be marking the course of concealed U-boats."

"On clear days the flight of gulls may be observed for five miles. Gulls are known to travel for hundreds of miles, and are frequently seen in mid-ocean. Owing to the protective measures of the National Association of Audubon Societies, they have greatly increased in numbers on these coasts, and it is estimated that there are half a million of them about the waters of New York Harbour alone."

Among those who are interested in the idea is Mr. George Simpson, mechanical engineer, of No. 17, Battery Place. He has written a letter to the inventor on the subject.

Knowing by observation the greater sensitiveness to gulls of their sight and smelling senses," he writes, "I believe that your suggestion is well worthy of a thorough test, not only here, but in Western European waters, where these sea birds are very numerous. Heligoland particularly is a famous resort for teeming millions of these winged scouts, and being at the entrance to one of Germany's naval bases would make a particularly interesting point of experimentation."

Dr. Frank Chapman, says he believes the idea well worthy of trial. "Birds form associations quickly," he said, "and it is not at all improbable that they could be taught to look upon a submerged submarine as a source of food supply under certain conditions. Gulls do not dive for food, and it would be necessary, therefore, to use some kind of device which would come to the surface after the food had been released beneath water."

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

In regard to illegible handwriting, a good story is told of a compositor who was dreadfully worried over the MS. of Thomas Carlyle, which was often almost undecipherable. It got on his nerves to such an extent that he eventually resigned his situation, and left London for Edinburgh, where he took service with a well known firm of printers. Just as luck would have it, Carlyle's publishers about the same time transferred some of their printing contracts to this Edinburgh firm, and our friend the compositor had not been there a week when some of the Carlyle MS was handed to him to be set up in type. So soon as he saw the old familiar handwriting he threw up his arms in despair, "D— it all," he said, "that old beggar has followed me up to Edinburgh!"

"A quarter of a pound of Rhondada, please," asked the small child. From the biscuit tin, with duly printed label, the shopkeeper weighed out and handed over the goods demanded. Thus is the Food Controller already assured of immortality, for long after the war has become a memory Rhondada biscuits will remain a household reality. Are not Garibaldi biscuits manched by thousands who know little and care less for the red shirted Liberator of Italy? The Bath Oliviers engrave the name of an otherwise forgotten physician, while soldiers and scientists have striven and toiled in vain for a title of the fame which the Sally Lunn has given to a Scottish serving maid.

Sir Frederick Bridge, who on December 4 passed the 73rd milestone of a life devoted to music, is noted for his wit as well as his learning. One of his stories concerns the new Wesleyan Hymn book, in connection with which he acted as adviser to the editorial committee. The committee submitted to him a tune thought to be of Handelian derivation, but which he declared would make Handel turn in his grave every time it was sung. The committee, however, were not to be denied, and submitted the tune once more, suggesting that it might be marked pianissimo, "so as not to disturb Handel."

The soldier's liking for the concertina has been shared, with in strictly defined limits, by some musicians. John Hallah, for instance, while he thought it inconceivable that the quality of sound produced by the vibrating metal tongue—the common voice of the harmonium, concertina, and accordion—should ever take permanent hold on the cultivated musical ear, held that the concertina might be usefully employed as a substitute in concerted music for the violin, violoncello, flute, clarinet, trumpet, horn, or even the human voice. In enumerating its good qualities he says, "though practically unobtainable it does not easily get out of tune, that its compass is remarkably extensive for an instrument so small and portable, that it is capable in good hands of much light and shade, and that whatever objections may be made to its timbre many have made equally to the harmonium or American organ; Hallah, by the way, thought the harmonium should only be used as an instrument of melody, and that the practice of playing it as an organ was a musical ineptitude."

When a very young man Hallah set next Thomas Attwood (the pupil of Mozart and the teacher of Goss) at a concert at which Giulio Regondi played a solo on the concertina, then a new instrument which neither Hallah nor Attwood had heard of before. Hallah's report of Attwood's running commentary on the performance amazingly illustrates his contention as to the instrument's effect on "the cultivated musical ear." After a few bars, he says, Attwood murmured, "This is exquisite." After a few more, "This will repudiate the concertina. What can you want with two diatonic when you can have this?" After many more bars, "This is rather long." Presently, "This is rather monotonous." Later still, "This is really quite a relief." (Because of the monotony of the diatonic scale, but before the end of the performance, "This is a most excellent piece of music."

HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS.

Administrative Orders issued by Major H. A. Morgan, Administrative Commandant, state:—

Strength. Private T. B. Partington was enrolled on 7.2.18 and posted to "A" Company, No. 4 Platoon. Private W. Barker was enrolled on 8.2.18 and posted to "A" Company, No. 4 Platoon. Private B. Bruce rejoined the Corps on 14.2.18 and is posted to "A" Co., No. 1 Platoon. Sapper J. V. S. Xavier and Sapper T. Gibbison, Engineer Company, are permitted to resign, on leaving the Colony, dated 7th February, 1918.

Leave. Corporal A. J. W. Rosser, Engineer Company, is granted leave for the duration of the war, from 1st March, 1918. Gar. A. W. P. Spier, Artillery Company, is granted 3 months' leave, from 14.2.18. Gar. A. H. Compton, Artillery Company, is granted 4 months' leave, from 21.2.18.

Musketry Notes. Corps Order No. 3, dated 23.11.17, is republished for information. Copies of the booklet kindly presented to the Corps by Lieut. H. B. Harcock and 2nd Lieut. B. Sutherland, may be obtained on application at Headquarters.

Allotment of Rifle Range. King's Park Range is allotted to the 74th Battalion from 7 a.m. to 12 noon daily, except Sundays, from 4 a.m. to 20th March inclusive.

Communication Drill. At Headquarters on Tuesday, 19th instant, at 6 p.m. Officers and N. C. Os of "A" and "B" Companies will attend. Other Officers and N. C. Os may attend if they so desire. Company Drill will be practised.

Lecture. At Headquarters, Friday, 22nd instant, at 6 p.m. Subject, Field Service Regulations.

Artillery Orders. Orders for Artillery Company by Captain J. H. W. Armstrong, V. D., state:—

Tuesday, 19th instant.—7.30 a.m. Right Half Company, Musketry Instruction. 5.15 p.m. Left Half Company, Musketry Instruction.

Wednesday, 20th instant.—7.30 a.m. Right Half Company, Musketry Instruction. 5.15 p.m. Left Half Company, Musketry Instruction.

Friday, 22nd instant.—7.30 a.m. Right Half Company, Musketry Instruction. 5.15 p.m. Left Half Company, Musketry Instruction.

Engineer Orders. Orders for the Engineer Company by Captain W. Russell state:—

15th to 22nd instant.—E. L. Manning nightly. Parades as per rosters posted at Headquarters. Engine Drivers at 6 p.m. Electricians at 6.15 p.m.

Officers next for duty.—Belchers, 2nd Lieut. Matthewman; Lyseman, Captain Jones; Stonecutter, Lieut. Stevenson.

Parade Kit Inspection.—The parade ordered for Saturday, 16th instant, is cancelled.

Instruction for members of Infantry Battalion attached for duty. Class 1, at Belchers at 6.30 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays; Class 2, at Belchers at 6.30 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays; Class 3, at Lyseman at 6.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Musketry.—No. 4 Section, as notified by the Coy. Sergt. Major, will fire at King's Park Range on Sunday 17th instant, at 9 a.m. sharp. No. 3 Section, as detailed by Sergt. Everest, will fire at Tai Koo Range on Sunday, 17th instant, at 9 a.m.

Duties of Lieut. Lyseman from 17th to 28th instant is posted at Headquarters.

Infantry Parades. Orders for Infantry Battalion by Major H. A. Morgan state:—

"A" COMPANY. Monday, 18th instant.—4.30 p.m. Annual Musketry Course, Part 3, Practices 13, 14, and 15, at King's Park Range for N. C. Os and men who have not fired these practices. Note.—Only those who have completed Parts 1 and 2 may fire the above.

Tuesday, 19th instant.—5.15 p.m. Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 Platoons on Cricket Ground, Platoon Drill, Dress, Drill order.

Thursday, 21st instant.—4.30 p.m. Annual Musketry Course, Part 3, Practices 15, 16, 17, and 18, at King's Park Range for N. C. Os and men who have not fired these practices. Note.—as above.

Friday, 22nd instant.—5.15 p.m. Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 Platoons on Cricket Ground, Platoon Drill, Dress, Drill order.

Monday, 18th instant.—5.15 p.m. At Jockey Club Stables, Dress, Drill order.

Thursday, 21st instant.—5.15 p.m. At Jockey Club Stables, Dress, Drill order without rifle. Signalling Section.

Monday, 18th and Wednesday, 20th instant.—5.15 p.m. "A" and "B" Classes at Headquarters.

Tuesday, 19th and Friday, 22nd instant.—5.15 p.m. Musketry Instruction. All signallers who have not passed the Tests of Elementary Training, parade under C. S. M. Blair, at Headquarters. (Drill order).

STRETCHER BEARER SECTION. Tuesday, 19th instant.—5.15 p.m. Parade at Headquarters.

"B" COMPANY.

Monday, 18th instant.—4.30 p.m. Annual Musketry Course, Part 3, Practices 13, 14 and 15, at King's Park Range for N. C. Os and men who have not fired these practices. Note.—Only those who have completed Parts 1 and 2 may fire the above. 5.15 p.m. No. 8 Platoon, at Kowloon Docks, Platoon Drill, Dress, Drill order.

Thursday, 21st instant.—4.30 p.m. Annual Musketry Course, Part 3, Practices 15, 16, 17 and 18, at King's Park Range for N. C. Os and men who have not fired these practices. Note.—as above.

Friday, 22nd instant.—5.15 p.m. Nos. 5, 6 and 7 Platoons, on Cricket Ground, Platoon Drill, Dress, Drill order.

MACHINE GUN COMPANY. Dress for all parades, Clean Fatigue with puttees.

Monday, 18th instant.—5.10 p.m. Drill at Kowloon Docks, Nos. 1 and 2 guns only. Hongkong residents proceed by launch from Queen's Statue Pier at 4.30 p.m.

Wednesday, 20th instant.—6.10 p.m. Drill at Headquarters, Nos. 3, 4 and 5 guns only.

Thursday, 21st instant.—5.10 p.m. Drill at Headquarters. The following men only need attend:—Pies. Field, I vine, Labrum, Logan, McKerns, Piquet and Stapleton.

Friday, 22nd instant.—5.15 p.m. N. C. Os at Headquarters.

Monday, 18th instant.—5.15 p.m. At Jockey Club Stables, Dress, Drill order.

Thursday, 21st instant.—5.15 p.m. At Jockey Club Stables, Dress, Drill order without rifle.

Monday, 18th and Wednesday, 20th instant.—5.15 p.m. "A" and "B" Classes at Headquarters.

Tuesday, 19th and Friday, 22nd instant.—5.15 p.m. Musketry Instruction. All signallers who have not passed the Tests of Elementary Training, parade under C. S. M. Blair, at Headquarters. (Drill order).

STRETCHER BEARER SECTION. Tuesday, 19th instant.—5.15 p.m. Parade at Headquarters.

Monday, 18th instant.—5.15 p.m. All units, except "D" Company, on Murray Parade Ground, under Sergt. Edmonds and Meade. Dress, Drill order.

Friday, 22nd instant.—5.15 p.m. All units, except "D" Company, on Murray Parade Ground, under Sergt. Edmonds and Meade. Dress, Drill order.

"D" COMPANY. Monday, 18th instant.—5.15 p.m. Nos. 1 and 2 Sections, on Murray Parade Ground, Musketry Instruction. Dress, Drill order with pouches. Sergt. Orberry and Corp. Grimes will attend.

Friday, 22nd instant.—5.15 p.m. Nos. 3 and 4 Sections, on Murray Parade Ground, Musketry Instruction. Dress, Drill order with pouches. Sergt. Orberry and Corp. Grimes will attend.

Cadet Orders. Orders for Cadet Company by 2nd Lieut. J. E. W. Beard state:—

Strength.—Cadet Weill joined on the 4.2.18 and was posted to No. 1 Section; Cadet Coburn joined on the 11.2.18, and was posted to No. 4 Section; Cadet Gordon joined on the 11.2.18, and was posted to No. 4 Section; Cadet B. J. J. joined on the 11.2.18, and was posted to No. 1 Section; Cadet Boulton joined on the 11.2.18, and was posted to No. 2 Section; Cadet Henderson-Smith joined on the 11.2.18, and was posted to No. 1 Section. The Commanding Officer records with great regret the death of Bugler B. L. Kynach on the 13th instant.

Parades.—Monday, 18th instant.—5.15 p.m. Nos. 1 and 2 Sections at Kennedy Road Range. 5.30 p.m. Band practice at Headquarters.

Wednesday, 20th instant.—5.15 p.m. Nos. 3 and 4 Sections at Gun Club Hill. 5.30 p.m. Band practice at Headquarters. 6.30 p.m. Gymnasium at St. Andrew's Church Hall.

Visits to Prisoners in Switzerland. An intimation has been received at the headquarters of the Joint War Committee of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John, 83, Pall-mall, London S. W. 1, from the authorities in Switzerland that it is not desirable that further parties of relatives should be sent to visit interned prisoners in Switzerland at present.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(The opinions expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

A DOG LICENSE.

(To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

Sir,—Would you extend me the courtesy of your valued paper to comment on the judgment in a case in which I was this morning fined a dollar in the Police Magistrate for having kept a dog, as misallied, without a license at 9.30 a.m. on the 5th February instant?

The fact of the case is that I called at the Police office in the morning in question at 9 a.m. and paid for a license, and was told to call again later in the course of the day for it, as it had to be signed by the Captain Superintendent of Police who was not yet in office, but I was assured by the clerk in charge that should anything happen in the meanwhile I could refer to him. I told the Magistrate this and he asked the Police Officer if he was satisfied and on his replying in the affirmative I was, to my surprise, fined a dollar. Although I had a license, your Worship? I asked.

"Yes," he said, "because you should have taken it from 1st January." I am of the opinion that the judgment was erroneous inasmuch as I was summoned for having a dog without a license on the 5th February, 1918, at 9.30 a.m. but not for having not taken a license from 1st January, and, as I proved that I had a license when the Police called on me, the duty of the Magistrate was to dismiss the summons on the ground that it was on a misallied statement.

In view of the inconvenience I have suffered through the absence of the Captain Superintendent of Police in his office at the official hour of 9 a.m. to sign the license, it behoves the Authorities to see that Government employees should henceforth be more punctual in their attendance in office, and, when unavoidably called out, an assistant should be left there with authority to discharge the duties of the office to avoid recurrence of such a case of inconvenience and unpleasantness to the public.

Yours etc.,
J. M. GUTIERREZ.
Hongkong, Feb. 15, 1918.

VICTORIA REGATTA.

The Courses and Handicaps.

The course and handicaps for yachting events at Saturday's regatta are as follows:—

Handicap Class.
Dione, scratch.
Bolla, 5 sec. per mile.
Jessios, 10 sec. per mile.
Diana, 45 sec. per mile.
Colleen, 45 sec. per mile.
Aileen, 60 sec. per mile.
Preparatory Gun 2.15 p.m.
Starting Gun 2.20 p.m.

One Design Class.
Daphne, scratch.
Bonita, scratch.
Aileen, scratch.
Halcyon, scratch.
Preparatory Gun 2.25 p.m.
Starting Gun 2.30 p.m.

Howard Hays & Gael Class.
Lady Ursula, scratch.
Dione, " "
Lysbeth, " "
Do-ohy, 5 sec. per mile.
Tah-nie, 5 " "
Gael, 5 " "
A-thorr, 5 " "
Preparatory Gun 2.35 p.m.
Starting Gun 2.40 p.m.

The Course for all events will be:—North Fairway Buoy (S), Trocas Rock (S). Distance: 6 1/2 miles. Starting and finishing line between the yachts "Niobe" and "Vera", which will be moored respectively at the inner end of the inner buoy, opposite the V.R.C.

Starters will be Messrs. D. K. Blair and A. H. Milroy; time keepers, Messrs. A. W. Van Andel and A. Denison; judges, Messrs. F. Smyth and G. G. Wood.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

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POLICE RESERVE ORDERS.

Orders issued to-day by Mr. F. C. Jenkin, D.S.P. (R.), state:—

Summer Uniform. Members requiring fresh issue or alteration made in present issue of uniform are ordered to attend at Headquarters Club for inspection at 5.30 p.m. as follows:—

Monday, February 18.—No. 1 Company and Mounted Police.

Tuesday, February 19.—No. 2 Company, Band and Orchestra.

Wednesday, February 20.—No. 3 Co. Ambulance and Buglers and Drummers.

Men on duty on the date set aside for their units will attend on one of the two other dates.

Uniform to be condemned or altered is to be produced. Dressing rooms will be set aside for convenience of changing.

Equipment Officers or deputy must attend on all three nights.

Crimes Reports. The attention of all ranks is directed to the fact that Reports of Crimes, etc., are kept posted at Headquarters Club.

Combined Parade. All ranks are provisionally warned that they may be required to attend a parade on the Polo Ground at 3 p.m. on Saturday, February 23. Further Orders will be issued.

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Peak Sunday School. We are asked to state that the Peak Sunday School will meet at 4.30 p.m. on Sunday, the 17th instant.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENT.

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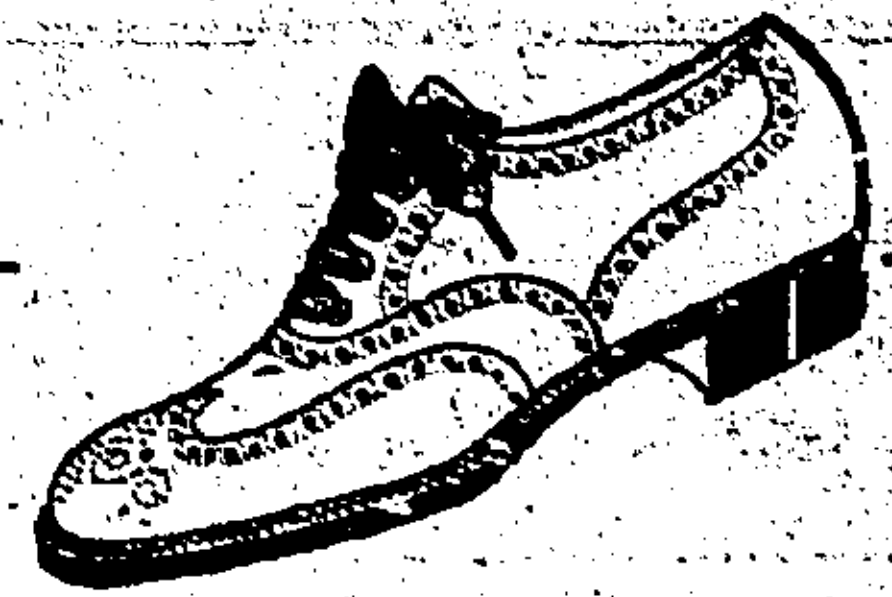
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VICTORIA, B.C. & SEATTLE via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama and Yokohama...	Fushimi Maru Capt. Iizawa	T. 21,000 { WEDNES. 13th Mar., at 10 a.m.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama...	Iryo Maru Capt. Taka	T. 12,500 { WEDNES. 20th Feb., at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama...	Kihano Maru Capt. Cope	T. 16,000 { THURS. 7th Mar., at 11 a.m.
NAGASAKI, Kobe and Yokohama...	Stango Maru Capt. Akamatsu	T. 13,500 { SATUR. 16th Feb., at 11 a.m.
Kobe	Taisho Maru Capt. Ogawa	T. 8,000 { SATURDAY, 16th Feb.
	Yotorofu Maru Capt. Kitamura	T. 8,000 { SATURDAY, 23rd Feb.

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Steamers.	Tons.	Leave Hongkong.
PERSIA MARU	13,000	22nd Feb.
KOREA MARU	13,000	9th Mar.
SIBERIA MARU	13,000	22nd Mar.
TOYO MARU	22,000	9th April.
NIPPON MARU	11,000	16th April.
SHIMO MARU	22,000	27th April.

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SAN FRANCISCO, SAN PEDRO, SALINO, CALZ,
BALBOA, CALLAO, ARICA AND IQUIQUE.

THENCE BY TRANS ANDREAN ROUTE TO BUENOS AIRES.

Steamers.	Tons.
ARICA MARU	13,500
NIYO MARU	17,200
SEIYO MARU	14,000

These are interchangeable with the Canadian Pacific Ocean Services, Ltd. and the Pacific Mail Steamship Co.

Passengers may travel by rail between ports of call in Japan free of charge.

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Sailing from Hongkong to San Francisco.

S.S. Tilsandari 6th Mar. S.S. Tjikembang
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The steamers have accommodation for a limited number of saloon passengers and carry a duly qualified surgeon.

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C. N. C.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

For	Steamers.	To Sail.
SHANGHAI	Sinking	15th Feb. at d'light.
SHANGHAI	Shuntien	16th Feb. at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Sunning	19th Feb. at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Shantung	21st Feb. at 3 p.m.

SHANGHAI LINE-PASSENGERS, MAILS AND CARGO.
Excellent Saloon accommodation. Amplest Electric Light and Fans in Saloon and State-rooms. Regular schedule service between Canton, Hongkong and Shanghai, taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports. Passengers are Landed in Shanghai, avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

For Freight or Passage apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.Telephone No. 36.
Hongkong February 13, 1918.

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

Regular Fortnightly Service between
CHINA and JAPAN.

Steamers	From	Expected on or about	Will leave on or about	For
Kambangan	Madras/Spore	15th Feb.	2nd Mar.	Kobe
Boerboe	Java	25th Feb.	4th Mar.	Java
Tilini	Amoy	28th Feb.	8th Mar.	Yokohama, Kobe
Tibodas	Java & M'sar	2nd Mar.	11th Mar.	Amoy & S'hai
Titaroom	Java	5th Mar.	11th Mar.	Amoy & S'hai

The steamers are all fitted throughout with electric light and have accommodation for a limited number of saloon-passengers. All steamers carry a duly qualified surgeon. Cargo taken at through rates to all ports in Netherlands-India and Australia.

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HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA COAST PORT SERVICE.

Regular Service of Fast, High Class Coast Steamers having good accommodation for first Class Passengers, Electric Light and Fans in state-rooms and Saloon and Excellent Cuisine.
FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW AND RETURN.
(Occupying 4 to 10 days.)

Steamships.	Captain	Leaving.
Haitan	A. E. Hodgins	15th Feb., at noon.
Haihong	J. W. Evans	THURS., 21st Feb., at noon.

FOR SWATOW.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near Blake Pier).

For Freight and Passage, apply to

Douglas Lapraik & Co.,
General Managers.INDO-CHINA STEAM
NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

(Projected Sailings from Hongkong-Subject to Alteration).

For	Steamship	On
MANILA	Yuensang	Fri., 15th Feb. at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Wingsang	Sat., 16th Feb. at d'light.
SHANGHAI via Swatow/Taisang		Sun., 17th Feb. at d'light.
HAIPHONG	Loksang	Sun., 17th Feb. at 7 a.m.
SANDAKAN	Mausang	Thur., 21st Feb. at noon.
MANILA	Loonsang	Fri., 22nd Feb. at 3 p.m.

CALCUTTA LINE-Three sailings per month from Hongkong to Calcutta calling at Singapore and Penang.

Returning from Calcutta steamers proceed to Kobe and Moji, frequently calling at Shanghai. These steamers have excellent passenger accommodation, are fitted with Electric Light and carry a fully qualified surgeon. This line is temporarily discontinued owing to the war. Particulars on application.

SHANGHAI LINE-Sailings approximately every five days between Canton and Shanghai, sometimes calling at Swatow. Steamers on this line have a limited amount of passenger accommodation, and through bills can be obtained for Northern and Yangtze Ports via Shanghai. Through Bills of Lading are issued to all Northern and Yangtze Ports.

MANILA LINE-A weekly service is maintained with Manila by vessels with good passenger accommodation, sailings from both ports every Friday.

HAIPHONG LINE-Sailings approximately weekly for passengers and cargo, calling at Hanoi when independent offers.

BORNEO LINE-One sailing per month between Hongkong and Sandakan by a steamer having up-to-date accommodation for passengers.

CARGO LINE-A regular service is run from March to October between Hongkong and Tientsin calling at Waihai and Chiao.

Under Straits Government Passport Regulations.

All European Passengers, leaving the Colony for Straits Settlement, are required to produce on arrival at destination passports with their Photographs and description affixed thereto.

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COMMERCIAL NEWS.

Big Coconut Oil Cargo.

With a cargo of 8,495 long tons of coconut oil in her tanks, the largest shipment of the product ever made on one vessel, the Standard Oil steamer Acme sailed from Cebu on the morning of January 31, according to advices received in Manila. Part of the shipment, 2,480 tons, was loaded by the Philippine Vegetable Oil company and the remainder, 6,015 tons, was loaded by the Visayan Refining company from their mill at Opon. According to Samuel E. Kane of the Visayan Refining company, this cargo makes a world record in the shipment of this important Philippine product.

Machinery Making in Japan.

The "Meinichi" strongly criticises Japanese manufacturers of machinery. Our contemporary says: "During the war great development in this country has been shown in various industries except in the manufacture of machinery, which is in many cases unable not only to compete with foreign products, but even to serve as temporary substitutes for them. As a matter of fact, the Osaka Electric Light Company, owing to the difficulty of importing condensers from abroad, undertook to manufacture a 10,000 kilowatt condenser. On completion it was found to be capable of only 4,000 kilowatts instead of the 10,000 kilowatts intended. As a result, the Company is unable to execute all the contracts made in August of last year for supplying electricity to motive power. Again, the Sakura Cement Company ordered a certain description of toothed wheel for its new works from a Japanese manufacturer. The order was recently executed, but the wheel has already broken three times. Each time it is repaired, it immediately becomes unworkable. These are only two instances out of many which show how inefficient machinery makers are. It may also be taken as 'showing' that Japanese mechanical products cannot take the place of foreign machinery. No optimism is possible, therefore, in regard to Japan's industries after the war."

Markets for British and Irish Goods.

The Department of Commercial Intelligence is compiling an index or directory of British and Irish manufacturers, which it is proposed to forward to trade commissioners, consular officers, and other correspondents of the Department abroad, for their own use in dealing with inquiries which they may receive for the supply of British and Irish goods, both now and for delivery after the war. A large number of firms have already supplied information as to their products to the Department, but before framing this information abroad it is desired that all manufacturers interested in the export trade should have an opportunity of applying for the inclusion of their names in this index. The Department is now compiling the sections of the index dealing with the following trades:- (1) China and earthenware trades; (2) Glass trade; (3) Basket wares; (4) Wood wares; (5) Brush trade. Manufacturers in these trades in the United Kingdom are invited to supply in letter form:- (a) A detailed list of the articles they manufacture for export; (b) A list of the foreign and Colonial markets in which they are more especially interested; (c) The names and addresses of their overseas agents; (d) Terms of business, such as whether their trade is done direct with buyers or agents abroad, or through merchants or agents established in the United Kingdom; and (e) Any other information likely to be of use in enabling inquiries from persons desirous of purchasing goods in the United Kingdom to be dealt with adequately. Manufacturers who desire to apply for the inclusion of their names in this index should forward particulars to the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall-street, London, E.C.2, and envelopes should be marked "Index". The index is not intended for publication, but is for official use only in the Department of Commercial Intelligence, and by trade commissioners &c. It is not proposed to insert trade advertisements.

Death of Admiral Kiyama.

Tokyo, Feb. 4.-Admiral Kiyama, who achieved fame in the Battle of the Sea of Japan in the Russo-Japanese War, was one of the Japanese Navy's most distinguished officers.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

THIRTY-ONE AIR RAIDS ON GERMANY.

Amsterdam, February 12. A Berlin official message states: The enemy carried out thirty-one air attacks in Germany during January, fifteen of which were on industrial districts and fourteen on open towns, including Ludwigshafen and Freiburg twice each, Trier twice and Friedrichshafen, Bielefeld, Offenbach, Mannheim, Karlsruhe and Heidelberg. The number of aircraft were smaller, five being killed and nine wounded. The enemy lost four aeroplanes.

THE REASSEMBLING OF PARLIAMENT.

Reported Opposition to the Higher Command.

London, February 12. There is great interest in the resumption of Parliament in view of important questions like the Irish settlement, most rationing, coming out of engineers and State liquor payables, but especially the decisions of the Versailles Council.

The "Times" urges the Government to grant a public debate on the Versailles decisions in view of recent inspired public discussions of strategic plans and to deal with the Versailles military information unhesitatingly.

The "Daily News" says a vague and disquieting situation has been created by the Versailles Conference. Parliament will incur serious responsibility if it does not insist on light. The paper adds that there are rumours that opposition to the Higher Command will be revived and that General Sir William Robertson's position is involved.

The "Daily Mail" says Mr. Lloyd George to-day is prepared to meet most promptly any criticisms of the Versailles decisions.

The Imperial Escort.

London, February 12. After the opening of Parliament the members of the Imperial Escort, on the invitation of their Majesties, visited Buckingham Palace, where they were severally presented to their Majesties who shook hands with each of them, chatted to them and thanked them for their services.

GERMAN HOPES OF AN INDEMNITY.

Amsterdam, February 12. The "Vorwaerts" reports a debate in the Bavarian Upper Chamber showing that Germany has not given up hope of an indemnity.

The Finance Minister admitted that Bavarian expenditure was growing appallingly and would soon be at the rate of fourteen milliards of marks annually. This, he said, would mean more war and general taxation. The Minister concluded that it was self-evident that Germany must have an indemnity from the enemy. He admitted however that this depended on military and political developments.

SHARE REPORT.

Messrs. Benjamin & Potts, in their share report dated Friday, 15th February, 1918, state:—

Since our last report of the 8th instant, the Chinese New Year holidays have intervened and this has, of course, interfered with the market. There has been very little doing and very little interest shown. We expect to see an improvement when business again resumes its normal course. Rates are practically unchanged. The demand for investment stocks still continues, and although buyers are offering higher prices than last week, holders are very firm, and no transactions of any importance have been recorded.

The Shanghai market has been closed all the week on account of the Chinese holidays and all quotations there are nominal.

The Straits rubber market is quiet. The following are to-day's cable quotations:—Malakoff \$4.30, Kompa \$8.80, Ayer Panas \$19.50, Kuching \$3.90, Alor, Gajah \$4.10, Badelias \$11.75, Tapah \$20.50, Changkat Berangs \$8.50, Ayer Moleks \$2.50, New Serendang \$4.50, Pajans \$14, and Sandycrofts \$4.30, all Straits Currency.

Banking—Business has been done at \$330, at which rate more shares could probably be placed. The London rate has declined slightly to \$287.

Marine and Fire Insurances.—There are no transactions to report. Rates are slightly firmer all round. Unions are wanted at \$770, Canton at \$310 and North China at \$115. Yangtze are nominal at \$'hai, \$205 (Exch. 73). There are buyers of China Fire at \$128 and Hongkong Fire at \$310.

Shipping.—Deferred Indo-China have changed hands at \$159 and \$158 and there are buyers at the latter rate. The London rate has advanced to \$239. 5/- business done. Preferred shares can be placed at \$333. Douglases have been neglected at \$77. Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamships have been done at \$151, buyers offering \$151 at the close. A small sale of time charter has been put through at \$23.

Refined China Sugars have been offered to a selling agent at \$235 their sales at

\$27 and \$36. Malabons are offered at \$34.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks, after sagging away to a selling quotation of \$131, are again in demand at this rate for cash and corresponding rates forward. Shanghai Docks remain steady at \$134. Kowloon Wharves after sales at \$95 and \$94 are now wanted at \$95.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Humphreys' Estates have again come to business at \$5.60, the dividend of 50 cents paid on the 9th instant, and there is more enquiry at this rate. There are buyers of Central Estates at \$90, and Hongkong Hotels at \$90. Hongkong Lands at \$281, Kowloon Lands at \$271 and West Point at \$78, are nominal.

Oils and Mining.—Bauxite have again improved and buyers are offering \$2.60. Langkats are required for at \$14. Tronohs have buyers at 30/- and Ural Caspian sellers at 20/- "Shell" Transports are unchanged at 112/- nominal. Railans are wanted at \$35/-.

Electric Companies.—There are buyers of Hongkong Electric at \$48. China Lights are nominal at \$4. Low Level Trams are still offered at \$64.

Cotton Mills.—Owing to the Shanghai Stock Exchange being closed all the week, quotations are nominal as follows:—Shanghai Cottons Tls. 1251, Ewo Cottons Tls. 160, Kungy's Tls. 14.10, Yangtsepoos Tls. 8.10 and Orientals Tls. 404.

Miscellaneous.—Green Island Cements have been in good demand with business put through at \$7.95 and \$8, and there are buyers at the former rate. China Providents are wanted at \$7.75, but no shares are offering under \$8. There are buyers of Hongkong Loans at \$190 and Watsons at \$5.25. Dairy Farms have been sold at \$29. There are sellers of Peak Tramways (Old) at \$81. Ropes at \$20, China Borneos at \$93, Steel Foundries at \$10, Steam Laundries at \$4, Waterboats at \$11½ and William Powells at \$6½ are all nominal.

Forward Settlement Days.—22nd February (Friday), 27th March (Wednesday), 26th April (Friday) and 29th May (Wednesday).

Exchange.—The opening T. T. rate on London to-day is 2/11 and on Singapore 127. Bar silver (ready) is quoted at 49½d. Band's 3-ds buying rate on Shanghai is nominal \$169.

INTERESTING DECISION.

War Loan as Investment for Trust Funds.

In the case of D. L. Hollins (deceased), before Mr. Justice Astbury, in the High Court of Justice, the important question was raised whether, when trustees declined to exercise their discretion as to the investment of trust funds and when they applied to the Court directions, the Court was bound to order the funds to be invested in Consols.

The testatrix by her will gave a number of specific and pecuniary legacies, one of £3,500 being to the Royal College of Music, and continued in clause 11:—

"I give free of duty to my trustees such capital sum as will by the annual income thereof at the time of appropriation or investment produce after deduction of income-tax a yearly income of £1,000 a year on trust, for my niece Dorothea Hollins, the eldest daughter of William Hollins, on attaining the age of 25; and if she shall not obtain a vested interest for the eldest daughter for the time being, and, in default, for all or any of the children of the said William Hollins attaining the age of 25, in equal shares."

The testatrix left one-half of the residue of her estate to Ada Salter and Dr. Marion Phillips, treasurer and secretary respectively of the Women's Labour League; and the other half to Mr. Ramsey MacDonald and Mr. Arthur Henderson, treasurer and secretary respectively of the Labour Party. If, however, all the debts and legacies were paid in full there would be a deficiency of about £7,000, and therefore all the legacies would have to abate proportionately. If the sum necessary to produce the income of £1,000 a year were invested in Consols there would be a greater deficiency than if it were invested in War Loan. The trustees, refusing to exercise their discretion under the investment clause of the will, applied to the Court to determine in what securities they ought to invest the capital sum in order to produce the required income.

Mr. Sheldon appeared for the plaintiffs, the executors; the Hon. Frank Russell and Mr. H. H. Slesser for the Labour Party; Mr. Owen Thompson for the Women's Labour League; Mr. G. M. T. Hildyard for the Royal College of Music; Mr. G. R. Northcote for Dorothea Hollins; and Mr. Fairfax Luxmoore for her two sisters and other annuitants.

Mr. Northcote contended on behalf of Dorothea Hollins that the Court should follow its fixed rule and order the sum to be invested in Consols. He relied on *Prendergast v. Lushington* (5 Hare, 171) and *Prendergast v. Prendergast* (3 H.L.O., 195).

Mr. Justice Astbury.—This is an important question at the present time. The testatrix having given a number of specific gifts, pecuniary legacies, and annuities, created a trust in clause 11 of her will. [His Lordship read clause 11.] That trust is now existing, but the person who will ultimately become entitled to the capital or income arising from it cannot now be definitely ascertained. The first trust is in favour of Dorothea Hollins on her attaining the age of 25. She is now 12 years of age. The residue which, having regard to the other gifts in the will, is non-existent, is given equally to the Women's Labour League and to the Labour Party. It is agreed that there is a deficiency of some thousands in respect of the specific and pecuniary gifts contained in the will. In clause 21 of the will a wide range of investments is authorised. The trustees of the will at first intended to invest the capital sum required in Consols. Having regard to the price of that security such an investment, as against an investment in the Four per Cent. (free of income-tax) War Loan, would increase the deficiency at present existing by about £4,000, and the other parties interested under the will, who will have to abate, say that in such circumstances the sum ought not to be so invested. The trustees have declined to exercise their discretion under the will, and the Court has to decide whether there is any hard-

ALIENS AND WAR WORK

Permission of Army Council Required.

The War Office recently called the attention of employers and of social and benevolent organisations in contact with the navy and the army to the fact that, without the express permission of the Army Council, no alien may be engaged on any form of auxiliary war service.

"This safeguard, already adopted in the case of alien munition workers, was extended on Oct. 15 to all aliens seeking employment connected with naval, military and aeronautical work, with telegraphs, telephones and railways, with naval and military and civil hospitals, and with social, benevolent and religious organisations for the benefit of, or in contact with, His Majesty's forces. Before an alien may be engaged for any of these auxiliary war services, he must have his identity book specially endorsed with the permission of the Army Council. Aliens already employed prior to Oct. 15 must also comply with this condition. Employers are therefore required to see that both present and prospective alien workers of this description are approved by the Army Council.

and-fast rule that the money must be invested in Consols. Counsel for Dorothea Hollins, at present contingently interested, relied on *Prendergast v. Lushington* (supra)—a case decided in 1846, in which the Court ordered investment in Consols. On the appeal in that case Lord Oottenham said:—

"Then comes the question, what is the rule of the Court as applicable to a case of this sort where the funds are to be appropriated out of the general estate, for answering a particular purpose, for providing first, for the widow for life; the principal being afterwards to fall into residue? There is but one rule; the Court will not exercise its discretion as to whether it will invest in one stock or another; or whether one stock is better than another; there is but one rule, and that is a rule established for the better protection of all parties interested—namely, an investment of the funds in the Three per Cent."

In the House of Lords, Lord Brougham used practically the same words—*Prendergast v. Prendergast* (3 H.L.O., 195). Since that date the practice has been widely altered, and under the present rules cash under the control of the Court may be invested in a large variety of securities. (O. 22, R. 17.)

Now instead of there being only one main Government security the war has given rise to a number of loans. The Court has frequently ordered money under its control to be invested in these war loans instead of in Consols. It was contended that although that can be done when the money has been paid into Court it cannot be done where the trustees apply for directions as in this case. Here there is a wide range of investments authorised by the will. It is true that when such a question comes before the Court will not pick and choose between Government and other investments, but there is no rule that when the Court has decided to invest in Government securities it is bound to say that those securities must be Consols.

In this case, where there are a number of persons interested in the pecuniary legacies, I think that it is the duty of the Court to carry out the intention of the testatrix by not increasing the deficiency more than is absolutely necessary. I am of opinion that I shall be following the rule in *Prendergast's* case if I direct the money to be invested in Government securities. There are now a number of such securities instead of only one as in 1850, and I think that the proper course is to invest the capital sum in Four per Cent. (free of income-tax) War Loan. The result will be that the deficiency will be decreased without in any way endangering the persons who may ultimately become entitled to the sum of £1,000 a year.

JOYFUL SORROW.

The Transfiguration of Suffering.

In a letter published recently in these columns a correspondent observed that while the horrors and distress in the battle areas and the bereavements and privations throughout Europe are most obtrusive in the sight of all mankind there are some outstanding compensations not to be forgotten in estimating the effects of the war. Among other things it has proved to be a great unifying influence, while its universal call to service has eliminated the "unemployables." So far as these are results of the war we may value them as something to set against the grievous loss which has come upon the world; but if this were all that we have gained we could not be content with the moral balance-sheet of these bitter years. There is, however, another item which must be set down in any estimate of the issues of the war. That it is a real factor in the lives of thousands no one need doubt who looks with sympathy on those who are suffering.

In a recent volume of reminiscences a writer pays a tribute of sincere affection to the memory of one who through sorrow had gained a special grace. In referring to the bereavement which long years before had wrecked all those prospects which bring to early womanhood its special beauty, she gave expression to her experience in a phrase "which will be full of meaning to those who understand it, and absolutely meaningless to those who do not:—'Joyful Sorrow.'" This bright grace belongs to those whom suffering purifies and in its purification brings a revaluation of life, with consolations sweeter than anything conferred by success.

There is an exhilaration of life for those who in the strength of their manhood rejoice in the days of their youth. There is a satisfaction in success rightly won which gives to mature life full compensation for untiring effort in the heat of the day. But suffering may give a purer happiness than these can offer. It must be confessed that not seldom sorrow hardens and sours. Men and women sometime find their souls shrivelled in resentment against a cruel fate which has inflicted pain and humiliation upon them, allowing neither the power of appeal nor of redress. But those who have learnt sorrow's secret find how sweet are the uses of adversity, and how the sorrowful way leads to the City of God and the Presence of the Most High.

Any wide experience of those to whom this war has brought suffering may find evidence of this. We who are strong can think of nothing but the terror of mutilation, or the helplessness of the crippled, shaken, blinded men who in the flower of their manhood, have been prematurely robbed of half their life. We think of prospects ruined, careers destroyed, of strength turned to weakness, and self-reliance changed to dependence on the service of others. We number those who mourn their beloved dead and bear the silent heartache of bereavement. As we reflect on the wide reach of suffering and the agony quivering through the world we might well despair of any happiness for humanity.

But before we accept the conclusion of selfish pessimism we may well appeal to the sufferers themselves and listen to their testimony. There is nothing insincere in it. They have come to grips with life as it is. Their witness at least has the note of reality. And is it not true that those who listen to this witness are amazed by the power of joy those who suffer most possess in circumstances whose very atmosphere we might have judged must predispose men to despair? We wonder what it is that makes them not merely so brave and so patient, but so joyous. There in the gloom of weakness, or in the chill blasts of adversity, or in the shell of baffled love, they have found a Presence and a Power whose comfort is no analogue of sympathy but joyous comradeship in a gracious, supernatural purpose.

THE EARTHQUAKE.

Lammocks Lighthouse Badly Damaged.

We are informed by the Harbour Department that Lammocks lighthouse, near Swatow, was damaged by the recent earthquake shocks, the tower being badly affected. The light is still able to shine, but it may fail at any moment.

It is reported from other sources that Swatow has suffered badly by the shocks, many lives being reported to have been lost.

Our Canton correspondent writes that at 2.7 p.m. on the 3rd and at 4.10 a.m. on the 4th a series of earth tremors was felt, both lasting about thirty seconds. Very slight damage was done to a number of houses.

A telegram received in Hongkong states that Shanghai also slightly felt the tremors on the 3rd instant.

COMPANY REPORT.

Hongkong Hotel Co., Ltd.

The profit for the latter half of the year 1917, i.e. from 1st July to 31st December, 1917, including the sum of \$62,334.98 brought forward from the previous half-year, amounted to \$143,669.69, which the Board recommended apportioning as follows:—

To pay a final dividend of \$3.00 per share on 20,600 shares (making \$6 per share for year 1917)	\$69,000.00
To write off Furniture and Fixtures	5,423.30
To carry forward to new account	78,246.39
	\$143,669.69

The ordinary half-yearly meeting will be held at the Company's Hotel at noon on Friday, 1st March, 1918.

HONGKONG NAVAL YARD.

Questions of Pay of Subordinate Staff.

In the House of Commons on November 22, Dr. Macnamara, replying to Sir O. Kinloch-Cooke, who called attention to the heavy losses sustained by the subordinate staff of the Admiralty employed in H. M. Dockyard at Hongkong through the adverse rate of exchange, stated that the proposal for the payment of salaries in whole or in part of Dockyard staff, and of naval officers and ratings, at a fixed rate of exchange was receiving consideration at the Treasury. These Admiralty proposals, however, involved a general consideration of the method of payment of Army officers and others in the Far East. A decision would be obtained at the earliest possible moment.

Gladness be with thee, helper of our world!
I think this is the authentic sign and seal
Of Godship, that it even waxes glad,
And more glad, until gladness blossoms, bursts
Into a rage to suffer for mankind.

Such is the joyful sorrow which, because it springs from the exercises of a power all possess, may be attained by every sufferer. Not that men have this power in equal measure. It is the response of faith in a God of Comfort controlling the fortunes of men, but nowhere manifesting His power so imperiously and with such gracious strength as in suffering. As those in sorrow respond to the assurance that life is ever dominated and directed by Him who is supremely the Man of Sorrows, they take up their Cross with Him to find in the instrument of their victory as He found it, the means of His triumph. The world is full of sorrow, but it is a sorrow which may be turned into joy—joy no one can take from those who strain to Christ.

LOW-FLYING AIR WARFARE.

New Weapon Against Infantry. A special correspondent of the Times writes as follows:—

War Correspondents' Headquarters, November 16.—The weather of the last two days has been fine and mild, but not enough to have any appreciable effect on the ground, and no infantry operation has taken place beyond minor raids. We have made no new advance, and the enemy has, temporarily at least, abandoned his efforts to regain any of his lost positions. Even the artillery has been only moderately active. Though visibility has been no more than fair, the chief activity has probably been in the air.

Perhaps the most conspicuous recent development of the war has been the increase in the use of aeroplanes as actual fighting weapons against enemy troops on the ground. In its beginning it was a purely British invention, and for a long time after we had been practising it the Germans were content simply to comment with amazement on what they called the "audacity of the English airmen," who kept annoying the men in the trenches by flying down and firing on them from low altitudes. As in many other things, the Germans, after a while, began to copy us, and the practice is now so widespread that low-flying airmen are a factor with which the infantry in trenches, in shell holes, or on roads behind the front, always have to reckon. Day and early dusk are the periods most favourable to this form of guerrilla war.

The daily amount of damage inflicted on the enemy by our airmen flying low along and behind his lines is simply incalculable. The performance of a dozen machines on a single day, for instance, included attacks on half a hundred different objects, on which many thousands of rounds were fired from heights varying from less than one hundred to four hundred feet. Among these objects were bodies of troops marching up for relief along the roads, which were scattered, leaving dead and wounded on the road; troops at work unloading railway trucks at railheads, some of whom were killed and all driven from their work; infantry in trenches and shellholes; trains of pack mules bringing up supplies; gangs of signmen at work repairing wires broken by our guns; columns of lorries halted on the road and trains of moving motor transport, which were compelled to cease fire and the crews of which were either killed or driven to shelter.

The record of the experiences of two pilots who went out together the same day is interesting. These two machines started for the village of M., but on the way fell in with a large body of infantry on the road, so attacked and scattered it. Going on to M., they entered the village practically at the level of the house-tops, or not more than 50 ft. from the ground. The village street was full of German troops, so the airmen descended the street and cleared it out, one man firing over 800 rounds as he went.

Having driven every one still living and un wounded under cover, and there being nothing more to shoot at, they went on to village G. to repeat the performance. On the way they chased more men from the road and silenced a machine-gun. Close by G. they spied an enemy two-seater aeroplane. One of the two attacked it at about 800 feet and drove it down to 400, when his gun jammed, and while he was fixing it, a bullet from the ground hit him in the knee and cut him rather badly. He was able to get away home, however, whether the other went or not. They kept him company. Before they left they saw the German two-seater dive close to the ground quite out of control, and finally crash.

The same thing goes on every day when any flying is possible. It is a form of warfare which is steadily increasing though, as yet, it is only a detail compared with the real work of the air force, which is, primarily, observation and, secondly, the bombing of enemy points of military importance with high explosives.

MARKET PRICES

Hongkong, January 5, 1918.

BUTCHER MEAT.

Beef Sirloin—Mei Lung Pa	lb.	24
Prime Cut	lb.	24
Corried—Ham Ngau Yuk	lb.	24
Roset—Shiu	lb.	24
Breast—Ngau Nam	lb.	20
Soup—Tong Yak	lb.	20
Steak—Ngau Yik Pa	lb.	24
do.—Sirloin—Ngau Lau	lb.	30
Sausages—Ngau Cheung	No. 1	28
Bullock's Brains—No.	per set	10
Tongue, fresh—Ngau Li	each	50
do.—corned—Ham Ngau Li	each	60
Head—Ngau Tau	lb.	1.0
Heart—Ngau Sam	lb.	13
Hump, Salt—Ngau Kin	lb.	20
Feet—Ngau Keuk	each	10
Kidneys—Ngau Yiu	lb.	10
Tail—Ngau Mei	lb.	20
Liver—Ngau Kon	lb.	13
Tripe (undressed)—Ngau To	lb.	6
Calves' Head & Feet—Ngau-tai-tau-keuk	set	\$1.00
Mutton Chop—Young Pei Kwai	lb.	26
Leg—Young Pei	lb.	26
Shoulder—Young Shau	lb.	24
Saddle—Young On Yuk	lb.	16
Pigs Chittlings—Ohu Chong	lb.	4
Brains—Ohu No	per set	3
Feet—Chu Keuk	lb.	14
Kidney—Chu Chap	lb.	20
Head—Chu Tau	lb.	18
Heart—Chu Sam	each	10
Liver—Chu Yin	lb.	10
Kidney—Chu Sam	lb.	30
Pork Chop—Chu Pai Kwai	lb.	24
Leg—Chu Pai	lb.	28
Loin—	lb.	28
Fat or Lard—Chu Yau	lb.	21
Sheep's Head and Feet—Young Tau Keuk	set	60
Heart—Young Sam	each	12
Kidneys—Young Yiu	lb.	12
Liver—Young Kon	lb.	26
Sucking Pig to order—Chu Tai	lb.	26
Suet, Beef—Shang Ngau Yau	lb.	26
Mutton—Shang Young Yau	lb.	20
Veal—Ngau Tai Yuk	lb.	20
Sausages—Ngau Tai Cheung	No. 1	20

FISH.

Barbel—Ka Yu	lb.	28
Bream—Pin Yu	lb.	18
Canton Fresh Water Fish—Hoi Sin Yu	lb.	22
Carp—Li Yu	lb.	22
Catfish—Chik Yu	lb.	14
Codfish—Man Yu	lb.	16
Crabs—Hoi	lb.	18
Cuttle Fish—Muk Yu	lb.	16
Dab—Sha Mang Yu	lb.	32
Dece—Wong Mei Lap	lb.	10
Dog Fish—Tit To Shu	lb.	10
Eels, Conger—Hoi Man	lb.	14
Fresh water—Tam Sui Yu	lb.	18
Yellow—Wong Sin	lb.	34
Frogs—Tin Kai	lb.	36
Garoupe—Shok Pan	lb.	44
Gudgeon—Pak Kap Yu	lb.	17
Herrings—Teo Pak	lb.	22
Halibut—Cheung Kwan Kap	lb.	22
Labrus—Wong Fa Yu	lb.	20
Loach—Wu Yu	lb.	28
Lobsters—Lung Ha	lb.	29
Mackerel—Chi Yu	lb.	22
Monk Fish—Mong Yu	lb.	34
Mullet—Chai Yu	lb.	18
Oysters—Shang Ho	lb.	18
Parrot Fish—Kai Kung Yu	lb.	14
Perch—Tau Lo	lb.	18
Pike—Fa Pau Fong	lb.	18
Plaice—Pan Yu	lb.	18
Pomfret, Black—Hak Chong	lb.	28
Pomfret, White—Pak Chong	lb.	32
Prawns—Ming Ha	lb.	34
Ray—Pai Pa Shu	lb.	10
Rock Fish—Shok Kiu Kwa	lb.	15
Rosch—Chan Yu	lb.	14
Salmon—Ma Yau	lb.	32
Shark—Sha Yu	lb.	8
Skate—Po Yu	lb.	8
Shrimps—Ha	lb.	25
Snapper—Lap Yu	lb.	28
Sole—Tat Shu Yu	lb.	28
Tench—Wan Yu	lb.	18
Turbot—Cho How Yu	lb.	18
Turtles, small, fresh water—Keuk Yu	lb.	80

FRUITS.

Almonds—Rang Yan	lb.	35
Apples (California)—Kam Shan Ping Kho	lb.	18
(Ohio)—Tie Chun Ping Kho	lb.	18
Bananas, fragrant, Canton—San Shing Heung Chin	lb.	5
(India), Macao—San Heung Chiu	lb.	5
Chestnuts, Chinese—Fong Lai	lb.	11
Carambola—Young To	each	10
Coconuts—Ye Tse	each	10
Grapes—Po Tai Tze	lb.	28
Lemons, China—Lung Mang	each	8
America—Kam Shan Ling Mang	each	7
Lichees Dried, (small stone)—Lai Chi Kon	lb.	28
Fresh	lb.	28
Oranges, (Canton), (Sweet)—Shan-shang Tin Ohing	each	11
Sweet	each	11
Pears, (American)—Kiu San Shoo Lay	each	19
(Canton), (Cooking)—Shi Li	each	19
Peanuts—Fa Shang	each	10
Persimmons, Large—Hong Tze	each	12

食肉

Plantain—Tai Chiu	each	2
Plum—Swatow, Hung Lai	each	11
Pamelo, Siam—Chim Lo Yau	each	11
Shanghai—Lo Kwai	each	14
Walnuts—Hop To	each	14
Green—Sang Hop Tuo	each	14
Water Melon—(Am.) Kom San Sai Kwa	each	14

POULTRY.

Chicken—Kai Tai	lb.	30
Capon, Small—Sin Kai	lb.	30
Large	lb.	36
Ducks—Ap	lb.	24
Doves—Fan Kan	lb.	18
Eggs, Hen—Kai Tan (cooking)	per doz	17
(fresh)	lb.	24
Fowls, Canton—Kai	lb.	35
Hainan—Hoi Nam Kai	lb.	36
Geese—Ngo	lb.	25
Pigeons, Canton—Pak Kap	each	30
Hoihow—Hoi How Pak Kap	each	22
Snipe—Sha Tsui	each	22
Turkeys, Cock—Fo Kai Kung	lb.	50
Hen—Na	lb.	50
Pheasant—Shan Kai	lb.	50
Quail—Om Chun	lb.	50
Partridges—Che Ku	lb.	50

VEGETABLES, &c.

Artichokes—Ab Chi Cheuk	lb.	4
Beans, (French), Macao—Oh Moon Pin Tau	lb.	4
(French) Shanghai—Sheung Hai Pin	lb.	4
Sprout—Nga Tsai	lb.	4
Long—Tau Kok	lb.	9
Beet Root—Hung Tsoi Tau	lb.	7
Bitter Squash—Fu Kwa	lb.	7
Brinjals, Green—Ching Yun Kwa	lb.	5
Red—Hung Ke	lb.	5
Shanghai—Ye Tsai	lb.	16
Cabbage, Chinese, (common)—Kai Tsai	lb.	8
Cane Shoots, bunch—Kau Shan	lb.	8
Carrots—Kam Shan	lb.	8
Celery, Chinese—Tong Kan Tsai	lb.	9
Chillies Dried—Kon Lat Chiu	lb.	25
Red—Hung Fa Chiu	lb.	12
Green—Ching Lat Chiu	lb.	6
Curry Stuff, English—Ka Li Chu Liu	lb.	10
Cucumbers—Ching Kwa	each	2
Garlic—Sun Tai	lb.	8
Ginger, young—Sun Tse Keung	lb.	8
old—Lo Keung	lb.	10
Horse Radish, Shanghai—Lik Kan	each	6
Indian Corn—Suk Mai	each	1
Lettuce—Young Shang Tsai	lb.	5
Water Chestnuts—Ma Tai	lb.	5
Mandarin—Kwai Lam Ma Tai	lb.	8
Mushrooms, Fresh—Shang Tso Ku	lb.	36
Musk Melon, Amer.—Kam-san Hong Kwa	each	10
Okros	lb.	10
Onions Bombay—Young Chong Tau	lb.	8
Greens—Shang Chong	lb.	5
Shanghai—Sheung-hoi Chong Tau	lb.	6
Parsley—Kun Tsai	lb.	\$1.20
Green Peas—Ching Tau	lb.	1
Potatoes, Sweet—Fan Shu	lb.	3
Shanghai—Sheung-hoi Shu Tse	lb.	3
Japanese—Yat Fan Shu Tsai	lb.	3
American—Fa Ki Shu Tsai	lb.	8
Koochow—Foo-chow Shu Tsai	lb.	1
Pumpkin—Tung Kwa	lb.	3
Radish—Hung Lo Pak Tsai	lb.	3
Rhubarb (Fresh)—Tai Wong	lb.	6
Sage—Tse So	lb.	7
Shallots—Kon Chong Tau	lb.	4
Spinach—Yin Tsai	lb.	4
Tomatoes—Nan Ke	lb.	8
Taro—Wu Tau	lb.	4
Turnip, Punt, (Long)—Lo Pak	lb.	4
English—Young Lo Pak	lb.	4
Vegetable Marrow—Chit Fa	lb.	5
(American)—Kam-san Chit Fa	lb.	5
Water Root—Sai Young Tsai	lb.	18
Lily root—Lin Nga	lb.	5
Yams—Ts Shu	lb.	6
English—Young Kan Choi	lb.	1
Tau	lb.	1

菓子

杏仁
 梨
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 李子
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 蘋果
 葡萄
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